



News from

# Congressman Ron Kind

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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## House Approves \$10.5 Billion for Hurricane Relief

**Washington, DC** – U.S. Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI) issued the following statement on the federal relief effort in the Southern Gulf States in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and the \$10.5 billion in emergency aid that the U.S. House passed today:

“The destruction of Hurricane Katrina and the massive flooding of the city of New Orleans and surrounding areas have created a national tragedy that is unprecedented in U.S. history. The resulting humanitarian crisis and the horror that has developed in the streets of New Orleans are both appalling and unacceptable. Our national response must be equal to the need of the victims, and although emergency responders and relief workers on the frontlines are working around the clock to do everything they can, immediate efforts were inadequate.

“Despite this grave tragedy, I am confident that together we will overcome the challenges ahead to help our brothers and sisters of the city of New Orleans and the impacted Gulf region. For the victims and their families, know that your country grieves with you, and we stand with you in this time of need. Be assured that help is on the way.

“President Bush has told the nation that the government will commit all the necessary resources, and we in Congress are working hard to make sure federal aid is delivered and victims are helped. Today the House approved what is likely a first installment of emergency aid for the ravaged areas, and in the last few days thousands of National Guard troops, including 475 Wisconsin soldiers, have been deployed to the Gulf States to provide assistance and security to the region.”

“The national community is rallying in other ways as many local communities and volunteers are organizing fundraising drives and other relief projects. I have heard from many constituents who want to know how they can help and who are already assisting in local efforts. The people of western Wisconsin have consistently demonstrated their generosity in times of crisis and once again they are answering the call of compassion.

“There is a lot of work to do in the days, weeks and months ahead, but we will not stop until we have found a safe haven for every citizen, provided the necessary medical care to the weak and ailing, and attended to the needs of all victims of this awful tragedy. May our hearts, thoughts, aid, and support continue to be with the victims and their loved ones over the Labor Day weekend and throughout the relief and reconstruction process.”

(more)

For updated response and recovery information, to donate to relief efforts, or to inquire about missing persons visit the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) website at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov). You may also contact the American Red Cross at 1 800-435-7669 or visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org). Additionally, my office has compiled a list of resources available on my website at [www.house.gov/kind](http://www.house.gov/kind).